

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 4, 2011

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2011–12 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 629

Introduced by Assembly Member Monning

February 16, 2011

An act to amend Section ~~80~~ 1450.1 of the Military and Veterans Code, relating to veterans.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 629, as amended, Monning. ~~Military and veterans. Veterans cemetery.~~

Existing law requires the Department of Veterans Affairs, in voluntary cooperation with the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, the City of Seaside, the Fort Ord Reuse Authority, and local agencies to design, develop, and construct the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery at Fort Ord, as specified. The State Contract Act requires projects that are not under the jurisdiction of specified departments to be under the charge and control of the Department of General Services.

This bill would authorize the Department of Veterans Affairs to enter into an agreement with the Fort Ord Reuse Authority for the veterans cemetery project to be under the sole charge and direct control of the authority.

~~Under existing law the Department of Veterans Affairs has specified powers and duties relating to military veterans, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs is in charge of the department.~~

~~This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes and correct an obsolete reference.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 *SECTION 1. Section 1450.1 of the Military and Veterans Code*
2 *is amended to read:*

3 1450.1. (a) Pursuant to this chapter, the department, in
4 voluntary cooperation with the Board of Supervisors of the County
5 of Monterey, the City of Seaside, the Fort Ord Reuse Authority,
6 and surrounding counties, cities, and local agencies, shall design,
7 develop, and construct the state-owned and state-operated veterans
8 cemetery, which shall be located on the site of the former Fort
9 Ord.

10 (b) The department shall oversee and coordinate the design,
11 development, construction, and equipping of the veterans cemetery.

12 (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that the design of the
13 veterans cemetery closely follows the concepts published in the
14 California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Fort Ord Development
15 Master Plan as prepared for the Monterey County Redevelopment
16 Agency.

17 (d) *Notwithstanding Section 10107 of the Public Contract Code,*
18 *and as authorized by Section 67679 of the Government Code, in*
19 *fulfilling the requirements of subdivision (a), the department may*
20 *enter into an agreement with the Fort Ord Reuse Authority for the*
21 *project under subdivision (a) to be under the sole charge and direct*
22 *control of the veterans cemetery public works project.*

23 ~~SECTION 1. Section 80 of the Military and Veterans Code is~~
24 ~~amended to read:~~

25 ~~80. The secretary may employ subject to law such expert,~~
26 ~~technical, legal, clerical, and other employees as the secretary~~
27 ~~deems necessary to carry out his or her powers and duties and~~
28 ~~except as expressly otherwise provided in Section 71, the secretary~~
29 ~~shall be the sole appointing authority for the department for all~~
30 ~~positions. Whenever possible preference shall be given to veterans~~
31 ~~for employment in the department.~~